

This **Comment** on the West Coast Governors' Agreement web site is from:

**Name:** Greg Whittaker, Kayak Alki

**State(s):** Washington

Regarding Topic Areas:

- Habitat protection and restoration
- Ocean awareness and understanding
- Sustainable economic development

Comment/Suggestion:

As the Tourism Representative of the Washington State Oil Spill Advisory Council, I believe we need to get people interacting with the local waters. We operate a small educational business offering insight to people on the health of Puget Sound (Elliott Bay in particular). Straight up, the numbers just don't work out. How can we continue to educate the people without providing support to the outfitters which provide the means to experience our most precious resources.

We are trying to figure it out, but need to see what else can be done to GRANT the sustainable educators the ability to continue providing the general population with information on the state of the local waterways. Big tourism operators ARE NOT DOING THIS Please help grassroots (even if they are trying to make a living off it) organizations thrive and survive. Big Business, and Government are not the answer, but have the ability to fund the People.

Respectfully,

Greg Whittaker

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